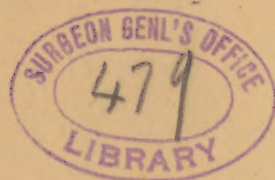


CARPENTER (Julia W.)

Psoriasis x x x x x



PSORIASIS AND THE NEW REMEDY, GALLACETO- PHENONE.

BY JULIA W. CARPENTER, M.D.

A. H., aged seventeen, first came under my care three years ago. The trouble was psoriasis guttata, appearing chiefly on the face, chest, arms, and from the knees to the ankles. This eruption he had been troubled with since childhood, and he had had the best advice and care of some of our prominent physicians.

During the three years that he has been under my supervision, he would improve under treatment, remain well a few months, and then have a relapse, as is usual in such cases. I never pushed the arsenic treatment, as it does not prevent relapses.

The best results were obtained by the external application of a solution of salicylic acid in alcohol, about fifteen grains to the ounce.

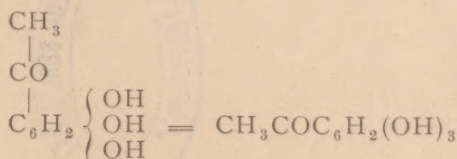
At the time of one of the worst attacks, I used the Faradic current. As this disease is thought to be a neurosis, I thought it worth while to try the efficacy of electricity in the absence of something better, although I could not find any reference to its use in this disease. It was applied on the back of the neck and the forearms. There was an immediate and great improvement. With its use at a subsequent attack the improvement was not so great.

In the *N. Y. Medical Journal*, of February 6th, 1892, there appeared an article by Dr. Hermann Goldenberg on the efficacy of this new remedy in psoriasis. He stated that he had used it since the middle of last October in thirty cases of skin diseases, twelve of which were psoriasis, and that the good effects were seen in twelve hours. The results, as described in those twelve cases, were so surprisingly good that I sent at once for the remedy, and used it as stated in the article, namely, a 10 per cent. ointment, applied twice daily. The good effect was immediate, the scales disappearing in two or three days, the redness gradually fading, and the skin taking on a normal appearance.

No other remedy, in this case, has had a similar effect, and this one case is reported simply because it accords with the many cases reported in New York and abroad.

Gallacetophenone is scarcely soluble in cold water, but is soluble in hot water, alcohol, ether and glycerin. As it does not discolor the hair, it can be used in psoriasis of the scalp. That it is perfectly harmless, has been proved by experiment on animals.

It is prepared from pyrogallic acid, and its resemblance to pyrogallic acid suggested its use in psoriasis. Its chemical formula is:



It is pyrogallic acid in which CH_3 CO are substituted for H.
—*Cincinnati Lancet Clinic*, April 30.





